E1 Conclude

(b) a biologically active polypeptide dispersed within the matrix; and

(c) an injection v hicle comprising hyaluronic acid dissolved in a physiological buffer.

E2

20. ~~(Twice Amended) A method for administering a biologically active agent,~~ comprising:

injecting the formulation of claim 17 into a patient in need thereof through a 23-gauge or smaller needle,

wherein the particles have an average diameter of between about 5 and about 200 microns.

E3

21. (Amended) An injectable formulation, comprising:

(a) hyaluronic acid dissolved in a physiological buffer; and

(b) particles, comprising:

(i) a biologically active agent, and

(ii) a biocompatible polymeric matrix.

E4

29. (Twice Amended) The injectable formulation of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a growth hormone, a hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), a glucagon-like peptide I (GLP-I), a nerve growth factor, an insulin-like growth factor, and an antibody.

E5

30. (Amended) The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the polymeric matrix is about 1 mg/mL to about 500 mg/mL of formulation.

E6

33. (Amended) The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the hyaluronic acid is N-acylurea modified hyaluronic acid.

E7

35. (Amended) The injectable formulation of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a growth hormone, a hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), a glucagon-like peptide I (GLP-I), a nerve growth factor, an insulin-like growth factor, and an antibody.